

By: Senator(s) England, Hickman

To: Elections

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 2649

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-13-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO CREATE A CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR SOMEONE WHO ASSISTS AN ELECTOR  
3 WITH CASTING A BALLOT, BUT WILLFULLY FAILS TO TURN IN THE BALLOT  
4 WITH THE INTENT OF THE BALLOT NOT BEING CAST OR COUNTED IN THE  
5 ELECTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-13-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 97-13-13. (1) If any person shall take or remove any ballot  
10 from a voting place before the close of the polls, he or she  
11 shall, on conviction, be imprisoned in the county jail not more  
12 than one (1) year, or be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars  
13 (\$1,000.00), or both.

14 (2) If any person assisting an elector with voting in  
15 accordance with Section 23-15-907 willfully fails to transmit the  
16 ballot that was mailed to the elector with the intent of the  
17 ballot not being cast and counted in the election, the person  
18 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be  
19 imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, and



20 subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars  
21 (\$1,000.00).

22       **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
23 and after July 1, 2025.

